STIC Search Report
EIC 3600

Reviewed all results - smw

STIC Database Tracking Number: 144444

TO: Examiner Diaz Meineicke	From: Ginger Roberts DeMille
Location: KNX 5A01	Location: EIC 3600
Art Unit: 5A01	KNX 4B59
Friday, July 01, 2005	Phone: 23522
Case Serial Number: 10/907102 ~related case~	Ginger.demille@uspto.gov

Search Notes

Dear Examiner Diaz Meineicke:

Please find attached the results of your search for 10/907550.

The search was conducted using the mandatory database lists for Business Methods.

These other sources were also used: Internet

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks for using EIC3600!

Ginger

? show-files.ds.t2/7/1,2
File 15:ABI/Inform(R) 1971-2005/Jul 01
        (c) 2005 ProQuest Info&Learning
File 16:Gale Group PROMT(R) 1990-2005/Jul 01
        (c) 2005 The Gale Group
File 148:Gale Group Trade & Industry DB 1976-2005/Jul 01
        (c)2005 The Gale Group
File 652:US Patents Fulltext 1971-1975
        (c) format only 2002 The Dialog Corp.

Set   Items   Description
S1   4   (RELOAD? OR REFUND? OR REFRESH?)(5N)(REMAINING OR UNUSED)(-
)(BALANCE OR VALUE OR PORTION)(20N)(GIFT OR STORED()VALUE OR -
                  CASH OR PREPAID OR PRE()PAID)()(CARD? ?)(20N)CREDIT()CARD? ? -
                  NOT PY>1998
S2   3   RD (unique items)

2/7/1   (Item 1 from file: 15)
DIALOG(R)File 15:ABI/Inform(R)
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01059853 97-09247
New transaction systems change MarketPlace concepts
Frable, Foster Jr
Nation's Restaurant News v29n27 PP: 30-32 Jul 10, 1995 ISSN: 0028-0518
JRNL CODE: NRN
DOC TYPE: Journal article LANGUAGE: English LENGTH: 2 Pages
WORD COUNT: 1288

ABSTRACT: One of the most critical components of any cafeteria, buffet, or
MarketPlace concept is recording and completing the transaction. Existing
MarketPlace or Marche facilities have developed using 2 distinctly
different approaches to the cash transaction - a traditional cafeteria
style, before the customer has been seated, and a traditional restaurant
style, after the customer dined. Both approaches have proved successful,
and the decision about which is the most applicable to a given orientation
is usually a factor of the space available and the type of customer.
Transaction options include: 1. card and stamp, 2. punched ticket, 3.
electronic card, and 4. bar code ticket.

TEXT: Since there was a lot of interest in my recent article on the
"MarketPlace/Marche" concept, I would like to provide additional
information on one of the most critical components of any cafeteria, buffet
or MarketPlace concept -- recording and completing the transaction.

Existing MarketPlace or Marche facilities have developed using two
distinctly different approaches to the cash transaction -- a traditional
cafeteria style, before the customer has been seated, and a traditional
restaurant style, after the customer has dined. Both approaches have proved
successful, and the decision about which is the most applicable to a given
orientation is usually a factor of the space available and the type of
customer.

Having the transaction occur after dining offers a number of advantages:

The seating area can be commingled with the serving stations, often
providing more seating than when the areas are separated.

The customer often purchases more food, particularly desserts and
additional beverages, because he or she easily can return to the stations
without the need to go through the cashier queue again. There is less
likelihood of spills and accidents since the customer can go right to the
table without standing in line. Food stays hotter, and the customer enjoys
the option of eating one course at a time.
The negative side of the transaction after dining is that a system needs to
be developed that offers a record of each purchase. A wide variety of
approaches have been used in the various "MarketPlace or Buffet" concepts
in North America and Europe.

Card and Stamp: A stiff paper card is given to each customer entering. As
he or she goes from station to station, the card is stamped with a rubber
stamp with the item name, a code number or a graphic symbol. This system is